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Abstract

PORTUGUESE REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPLY CAPABILITIES REGARDING NUCLEAR FUELS

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In presenting the basic data for their paper, the authors refer to the existence of considerable uranium reserves and of a uranium mining industry in Portugal, also to the predicted growth of electric power consumption through the year 2000 and to the possible share of nuclear energy in meeting the increased power requirements.

An examination of fuel consumption both in qualitative and in quantitative terms according to various types of reactors, leads to the determination of uranium requirements for each one of such reactor types and for each one of some nuclear power programmes postulated by the authors.

The size of the uranium mining industry and some of the factors on which it depends, are then studied in confrontation with uranium reserves and with uranium requirements as determined above. The interest in and the possibilities of installing fuel element fabricating facilities, as well as related questions of general policy are also discussed.

An analysis is finally made of the various possibilities of developping the utilization of uranium resources, and of the respective implications in the field of international cooperation.